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Grant Township Board approves tentative 2008-09 budget

Increased fuel costs and additional culverts are slated for the 2008-09 Grant Township road budget.

Trustees approved tentative budgets for road and bridge and town funds at Tuesday's regular Grant Township Board meeting.

Fuel costs were increased by 25 percent, said Road Commissioner Gary Weinard. The total earmarked for culverts was increased from \$30,000 to \$45,000, from the joint bridge fund.

Bridge repair costs have increased 15-20 percent, based on county figures, Weinard told the board. Twenty bridges in Vermilion County are considered

deficit, none of them in the northern part of the county, he added.

Officials do not expect two local bridges—Davis and Peters—to be repaired this year because other bridges are in worse shape. Township Supervisor Bill Boose said odds of repairs to the structures this year are a "snowball's chance in Hades."

The tentative budget also earmarks \$3,000 to purchase approximately one-half acre of land to straighten the curve on Road 4300, east of Floral Hill Cemetery. Weinard said an agreement in principle has been reached with the land owner, but a price has not been set and the property must be surveyed.

The total road and bridge budget estimate is \$582,100. Category totals are: road and bridge, \$131,600; joint bridge, \$177,000; building and equipment, \$77,000; special hard road improvement, \$162,500; and insurance and employer's tax fund, \$34,000.

The estimated town budget is about the same as last year, Boose said, showing a small increase for utility costs and earmarking \$25,000 for the township office parking lot.

Boose will seek bids for both tar and chip and concrete for the parking lot.

The total town estimated budget is \$434,400. Of that, \$260,600 is set in the town fund; \$123,900 in general assistance; \$7,500 for Red Top Cemetery; and \$42,400 for insurance and employer's tax.

The budget will be on display for 30 days and is expected to be approved at the board's May 13 meeting.

The board held the annual township meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday and ratified all action taken by the board during the year and listed surplus equipment, including a computer monitor, two computer towers, one computer with monitor and keyboard, four office chairs, a wooden desk and 14 plastic stackable chairs.

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This week's Daily Specials:
Monday: Taco Salad
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Tuesday: Chicken & Noodles
Wednesday: Chicken Salad Sandwich
or **Fruit Plate** - check it out!
Thursday: Pork Chops
Friday: Cod & Ribeye
Nick Gonzales & FURION 8:30-12:30
Saturday: **Prime Rib & Ribeye**
Rock & Bowl with MAUI CLUB
Sign in 8:30 p.m., bowl at 9 p.m.
719 W. Elm, Hoopeston (217) 283-6505

Briefly

Scholarship available

Hoopeston Area Healthcare Auxiliary is offering their annual scholarship to Hoopeston Area seniors who are interested in pursuing a medical profession in some manner. Applications are available from Kay Brown, Student Advisor, at the high school.

Hydrant flushing

Hoopeston Water Department will be flushing hydrants on Fridays, weather permitting.

Alley cleanup

Hoopeston Street & Alley Department will begin alley cleanup on Monday, April 14, weather permitting. Cleanup is limited to yard waste only.

Music Booster meeting

HA Music Boosters will meet at 6 p.m. April 15 in the Middle School chorus room. All music parents are invited.

Preschool screening

A free preschool screening for all 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds will be held Thursday, April 24 at First

Presbyterian Church, 915 E. Orange, Hoopeston. The screening will determine each child's knowledge of general concepts, motor, speech and language skills and hearing and vision. Parents should bring their child's Social Security card.

Birth-age three screenings will also be available on the same day.

Call (217) 283-6668 for an appointment.

Drivin' the Dixie events

Residents may sign up now for events during Drivin' the Dixie Day on Saturday, June 21.

Vendors may sign up for the flea market and garage sales which will begin at 8 a.m., with a 7 a.m. set up time. Fee is \$5.

A Dixie Derby race will be held in the Jaycee Shelter in McFerren Park. Registration fee is \$30, which includes a t-shirt, pinewood derby car kits, pit passes and two drink tickets to be used at local food stands that day. Individuals, families and businesses are all invited to participate. For information or to register, call the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce, (217) 283-7873.

Obituaries

BELL - Larry L. Bell, 67, of Hoopeston died at 9:54 a.m. Monday, April 7, 2008 at home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston, with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion and VFW Color Guard. His body will be cremated. Visitation will be 4-6 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

REED - Thelma C. (Hoffmann) Reed, 90, of Cissna Park died at 8:20 a.m. Monday, April 7, 2008 at Heartland Health Care Center, Paxton. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Union Cemetery, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Cissna Park Cemetery. Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park and will be one hour before service Thursday at the church. Memorials are suggested to Cissna Park Library or a charity of the donor's choice.

STEFFEN - Eldon L. Steffen, 83, of Cissna Park died at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at home. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Apostolic Christian Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Apostolic

Christian Cemetery with military rites by Cissna Park American Legion. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Friday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park and one hour before service Saturday at the church. Memorials are suggested to Parkinson Disease Association or Passages Hospice.

WILLARD - Andi Mae Willard, newborn daughter of Allen and Trisha (Lusk) Willard of Rossville, died at 1:20 p.m. Monday, April 7, 2008 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria. She was born Friday, April 4 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Visitation will be 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Graveside service will follow at Rossville Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674.

Weather



Heavy rain today and tonight. High 62, low 57. Tomorrow, chance of showers. High 61, low 37.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

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